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March 7, 2011

Senator Eileen Daily, Co-Chair Representative Patricia Widlitz, Co-Chair

RE: HB #6388 – An Act Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations Concerning the Office of Policy and Management

Dear Senator Daly, Representative Widlitz and Other Distinguished Members of the Finance Committee:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this important issue and illadvised proposal. My name is Bill Brennan and I am the First Selectman for the Town of Wilton.

The Governor's proposal to eliminate the Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes program for Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment (Pilot MME) breaks a promise to municipalities hosting these properties and forces other property taxpayers to subsidize a <u>state-mandated tax break</u> for companies owning such property. This is extremely unfair and a breach of trust.

If this proposal is adopted, \$274,000 of badly needed revenue will be lost by the Town of Wilton.

On behalf of the taxpayer citizens of Wilton who are threatened with this additional burden, we respectfully request the Finance Committee to take no further action on this bill and restore funding for this state-created reimbursement program.

Thank you,

William F. Brennan

First Selectman